

December 14, 2018

The Honorable Ajit Pai, Chairman  
The Honorable Michael O’Rielly, Commissioner  
The Honorable Brendan Carr, Commissioner  
The Honorable Jessica Rosenworcel, Commissioner  
Federal Communications Commission  
455 12<sup>th</sup> Street, Southwest  
Washington, DC, 20544

*RE: MB Docket No 05-311 In the Matter of Implementation of Section 621(a)(1) of the Cable Communications Policy Act of 1984 as Amended by the Cable Television Consumer Protection and Competition Act of 1992*

I am writing in support of the Comments of the Cable Act Preservation Alliance (“CAPA”) in the Second Further Notice of Proposed Rule Making. I oppose the tentative conclusions the FCC reaches in the proceeding because of their impacts on our community.

Having worked both in the Hollywood television scene and in major market radio stations, I can attest to the fact the Community Access Television makes more of a difference in the daily lives of those involved, on either side of the broadcast, than regular, unfocused, commercial media ever will. Community Access Television is the only truly local programming left on most cable systems and yet those same companies simply do not care about serving their audience with local events and issues. Cable companies across the country care more about profits than they do about providing this important public service and if they are allowed to control or influence the funding mechanisms which protect Community Access Television, they will most assuredly work to hamper, defund and destroy the only real local channels they are currently forced to carry and support.

Who covers local parades and holiday festivals? Community Access Television does. Who covers Veterans events and issues? Community Access Television does. Who works with the local high schools, both public and private, to help prepare their students for the media-heavy world we live in? Community Access Television does. Who covers the local elections and candidate forums every time, not just during the ratings months? Community Access Television does.

Whether it be by training the public to create their own media and exercise their first amendment rights, or it be in making sure that the local voice of our cities, elected leaders, educators and religious leaders continue to reach the people, Community Access Television serves that need. Community Access Television was created by those who saw a need, a local one, to serve the people. Who saw that need? YOU DID. You and your predecessors at the FCC created a space in which Community Access Television could exist and thrive to serve those local needs that you knew were there. You fought for it, you protected it - and both those who now create that local media and those who consume it have spent decades making it the very best it can be.

From local music to local culture, from examining what keeps us apart to celebrating what unites us together, from educating our young to honoring our elders, Community Access Television

specializes in and is the last place left that brings all of this into the homes of the local audience. The local audience finds all of this in one place on Community Access Television, rather than in the fragmented searches of questionable material on the Internet. There are some things that television does better than anyone else and keeping things local is one of them. It is time for the FCC to double down on Community Access Television and protect the very thing you created... LOCALISM.

By allowing cable operators to reduce franchise fee support for local communities if they decide to keep local PEG channels (which have been understood for decades, under cable law, to be a negotiated obligation of franchise agreements, separate of franchise fees,) the FNPRM diminishes the ability of PEG channels to serve communities such as ours, and very likely eliminates the PEG channels in most communities due to the resultant loss of fees that most cities will not be able to afford. I ask that the FNRPM not be adopted. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jason Dudas